

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01 JUSE-00 DHA-02 L-03 H-02  
PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /044 W  
-----040637Z 013103 /17

R 032340Z MA 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0672  
INFO ALL US CONSULATES IN MEXICO UNN

UNCLAS MEXICO 2671

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CASC, MX, US  
SUBJ: PRESS COMMENTS ON IMPLEMENTION TREATY ON  
EXECUTION OF PENAL SENTENCES

REF: HERMOSILLO 050.

1. AT A MEETING TO DISCUSS CHANGES IN SPANISH TEXT OF THE  
TREATY HELD MARCH 1, 1977, FONMIN UNDER SECRETARY ROSENZWEIG  
DIAZ SHOWED EMBASSY LEGAL ADVISER GAITHER A COPY OF NEWS  
ARTICLE QUOTED REFTEL AND REQUESTED LATTER'S COMMENTS.

2. LEGAL ADVISER INDICATED HE WAS AWARE OF THE ARTICLE BUT  
HAD NO INFORMATION THAT THERE HAD EVER BEEN AN OFFICIAL  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PRESS STATEMENT OR RELEASE ALONG THE  
LINES OF THE ARTICLE. HE ADDED THAT HE SERIOUSLY QUESTIONED  
THE ACCURACY OF THE ARTICLE IN LIGHT OF THE STATEMENT THAT  
THERE WOULD BE 400 RETURNEES RELEASED. HE NOTED THAT, TO  
HIS KNOWLEDGE, THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY EXCHANGE OF NUMBERS  
AND THAT SUCH A NUMBER WAS CLEARLY UNREASONABLY HIGH.  
ROSENZWEIG THEN EXPRESSED VIEW THAT THE AUTHOR OF THE  
ARTICLE HAD A REPUTATION FOR LACK OF ACCURACY AND  
IMPLIED THAT EVEN REFERENCE IN ARTICLE TO THE DEPARTMENT  
OF JUSTICE WAS LIKELY INACCURATE.

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3. MEXICO CITY DAILIES EXCELSIOR, EL NACIONAL AND EL  
HERALDO MARCH 1 CARRIED AP REPORT FROM WASHINGTON CITING  
SOURCES IN US. CONGRESS INDICATING THAT IMPLEMENTATION  
OF EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS WILL NOT TAKE PLACE FOR AT LEAST  
SIX MONTHS BECAUSE OF "BUREAUCRATIC DELAY." ARTICLE  
STATES IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION IS STILL BEING PREPARED

BY DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND JUSTICE AND CITES DETLEV VAGTS, CONSULANT IN L, AS INDICATING COMPLETION OF LEGISLATION WILL TAKE AT LEAST TWO MORE WEEKS. ACCORDING TO A STAFF MEMBER OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, THE ARTICLE CONTINUES, THE SENATE WILL NOT ACT ON THE TREATY UNTIL THE IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION IS READY. BEFORE SCHEDULING HEARINGS ON THE TREATY, THE SENATE COMMITTEE MUST FIRST FINISH A NUMBER OF PENDING ITEMS AND COMPLETE ACTION ON THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BILL. THE TREATY COULD NOT COME TO A VOTE IN THE SENATE BEFORE THE MIDDLE OF THE SUMMER, ACCORDING TO THE SAME SOURCE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THE RECENT PRESS REPORTS MENTIONED HERE EMPHASIZE THE NEED FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO KEEP THE EMBASSY FULLY INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS ON THE TREATY AND THE LEGISLATION.  
THOMPSON

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Expiration:**  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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